

Message Text

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PAGE 01 EC BRU 00923 281815Z

64

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PASS AGRICULTURE FOR ASST. SECRETARY BELL AND DAVID L. HUME

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, EEC

SUBJECT: NFDM MIXING REGULATION

REF: EC BRUSSELS 00476

1. DURING A DISCUSSION WITH THE AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE ON OTHER ASPECTS OF THE COMMISSION'S PROGRAM FOR NON-FAT DRIED MILK, WIJNMAALEN REFERRED TO LARDINOIS' CAMP DAVID COMMITMENT TO TAKE MEASURES TO ASSURE STOCKPILING OF PROTEIN IN CONNECTION WITH A COMPULSARY MIXING REGULATION. WIJNMAALEN SAID THAT HE DID NOT RECOLLECT A REFERENCE BY LARDINOIS TO "IMPORTS" OF PROTEIN IN ADDITION TO THE EC'S "NORMAL" PROTEIN IMPORTS. HE REMEMBERS LARDINOIS' HAVING SAID THAT HE WOULD TAKE THE MEANS NECESSARY TO INSURE THAT AN AMOUNT OF PROTEIN EQUAL TO THAT DISPLACED BY A COMPLUSORY MIXING REGULATION WOULD BE ACQUIRED FROM ANY SOURCE AND STORED IN THE COMMUNITY DURING THE EFFECTIVE PERIOD OF THE PROPOSED PROGRAM, I.E., APRIL 1- NOV. 1, 1976.

THUS, HE EXPLAINED, THE PROTEIN COULD BE COMMUNITY-PRODUCED AS WELL AS IMPORTED. WHY DID THE ORIGIN OF THIS PROTEIN MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE, HE ASKED, IF THE EFFECT WAS TO "OPEN A HOLE IN THE MARKET" FOR IMPORTED PROTEIN, WHICH MOST LIKELY WOULD BE US SOYBEANS? WE REPLIED THAT IT WAS DIFFICULT TO SEE AN ADVANTAGE,

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PAGE 02 EC BRU 00923 281815Z

IN EITHER CASE, BECAUSE THE ADDITIONAL PROTEIN WOULD HAVE TO BE

CONSUMED SOMETIME IN THE FUTURE AND THAT THERE WOULD BE NO NET GAIN FOR THE U.S. OR FOR ANY OTHER SUPPLIER. HE ADMITTED THAT THE ADDITIONAL PROTEIN WOULD INDEED HAVE TO BE CONSUMED SOMETIME BUT THAT, BY BEING HELD OFF THE MARKET, AMERICAN SOYBEANS MAY WELL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO BENEFIT FROM HIGHER MARKET PRICES. WIJNMAALEN SUGGESTED THAT THE ANTICIPATED DECLINE IN US SOYBEAN ACREAGE, AS INDICATED IN THE RECENT PLANTING INTENTIONS REPORT, SUGGESTED THAT SUCH HIGHER PRICES ARE INDEED IN THE OFFING. WE DECIDED IT WOULD BE FRUITLESS TO PRUSUE THIS MATTER FURTHER WITH HIM.

2. WIJNMAALEN SUBSEQUENTLY ADMITTED THAT LARDINOIS WOULD HAVE TO OBTAIN COUNCIL APPROVAL FOR PROPOSALS TO SUBSIDIEZE THE PURCHASE AND STORAGE OF ADDITIONAL PROTEIN, BUT HE QUICKLY ADDED THAT LARDINOIS INTENDS TO FOLLOW THROUGH ON HIS ASSURANCES TO SECRETARY BUTZ TO WHICH HE, LARDINOIS, IS FULLY AND PERSONALLY COMMITTED. WIJNMAALEN OFFERED NO DETAILS ON HOW LARDINOIS WOULD PROPOSE TO ENCOURAGE STOCKPILING OTHER THAN TO ADMIT THEY WOULD REQUIRE STORAGE SUBSIDIES.
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